



**WHITE COLLAR**

Official Organ of  
OFFICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION  
Affiliated with the AFL-CIO

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**Employers Don't Agree**

AFTER five days' debate, the Senate unanimously adopted S. 2888, known as the Kennedy-Douglas-Ives Bill, which would require welfare and pension plans of all kinds, company and union, to register and file detailed annual reports with the United States Department of Labor.

During the course of the debates, a number of Republicans attempted to propose amendments which would, in effect, make this bill a general labor legislative program. These amendments were all defeated on the grounds that they had not been referred to their proper committees.

As we anticipated, employer opposition to S. 2888 is now mounting. This opposition is growing because companies are also required to register with the U. S. Dept. of Labor. Commerce & Industry Association of New York, Inc. published a bulletin in which it asked all companies to write to the Chairman and Representatives of the House Committee on Education and Labor and urge the Committee to vote against this bill. Its main objection lies in the fact that it includes management. In other words, the bill is alright as long as it is directed against labor.

It is amazing that many of our leaders in management today feel that it is legally possible to shackle labor without touching management. Obviously, if labor is legally restrained, it is only a matter of time before management will be treated in the same manner.

**Saskatchewan Vacation Law**

Saskatchewan has become the first Canadian Province to adopt a mandatory vacation law.

In accordance with recent legislation passed by the Saskatchewan government, all employees of firms in the Province are to receive three (3) weeks' paid vacation after 5 years of service. In effect, it is possible, under the new law, for an employe to get six (6) weeks' paid vacation every 4 years with the employer's permission. The employe can save a week's vacation every year for 3 years and take one grand vacation holiday of six (6) weeks every 4 years.

We can't help but wonder about the reaction of certain United States corporations if such a law were enacted in the the United States.

**Unemployment Insurance**

The House of Representatives recently approved a bill to extend unemployment insurance compensation to idle workers who have exhausted their state claims. This bill would provide advances of federal monies so that states can extend the maximum duration of benefits by 50 per cent.

Unfortunately, the bill does not provide a federal grant. It merely provides a loan which must be paid back within four years. Unfortunately, too, there is nothing in the bill requiring a state to institute this program.

While this bill is not as strong as the Kennedy-McCarthy bill, it does provide additional benefits to the unemployed.

Some late figures indicate that the numbers of workers receiving unemployment insurance has declined. They also indicate that the numbers of those exhausting their unemployment insurance are on the increase. The unemployed who receive no benefits whatsoever or who have exhausted their benefits under unemployment insurance are a drain on the Nation's economy.

While the bill as passed in the House is not perfect, it may go a long way towards helping the plight of the unemployed worker whose unemployment insurance has expired, providing that the states affected take advantage of the federal loan.

**Coughlin and Harriman Congratulate Moe Rosen**

President Howard Coughlin and Averell Harriman, Governor of the State of New York, are pictured congratulating Moe Rosen, international vice president of the Sheet Metal Workers Union, on his appointment as a Commissioner member of the New York State Liquor Authority.

**Coughlin First Union Head To Speak at New Mexico U.**

As a result of an invitation extended by Professor Nathaniel Wollman of the University of New Mexico, President Coughlin, on a recent trip through the Southwest, addressed the Economics Club on Tuesday, April 22.

His talk dealt with the program of the AFL-CIO and the current recession. He outlined the seven-point program which was adopted by a recent National Conference called by President Meany in Washington, D. C.

The seven-point program included a tax reduction based on an increase in personal exemption from \$600 to \$700 per dependent. It also called for the adoption of the Kennedy-McCarthy bill; an increase in defense spending; and a public works program designed to build badly needed schools, roads and hospitals.

President Coughlin stated that the AFL-CIO, throughout its history, has been in the forefront on behalf of all wage

earners whether organized or not. He gave an outline of its efforts on behalf of social legislation, such as, unemployment insurance, Social Security and Workmen's Compensation.

In addition to the seven-point program, Coughlin emphasized the need for extended collective bargaining. He stated that the Labor Management Relations Act of 1947, in its preamble, was designed to foster and encourage collective bargaining. The intent of the preamble of the Act has been thwarted by numerous anti-labor decisions handed down by the National Labor Relations Board.

President Coughlin stated that the NLRB, through administration of the Taft-Hartley Act, has been able to accomplish many things that anti-labor associations have failed to do through legislation.

He stressed the fact that if collective bargaining was en-

(Continued on page 4)

**Board Upholds Sandia Examiner**

The National Labor Relations Board upheld a Trial Examiner and in effect stated that the Atomic Project and Production Workers Metal Trades Council, AFL-CIO and the Office Employees International Union, Local 251 had illegally picketed a construction gate supposedly set aside for the exclusive use of building construction workers employed by contractors doing work at the Sandia base in New Mexico.

The Board held that the Metal Trades Council and the OEIU, by such picketing, had enticed and encouraged the construction workers to cease work with an object of causing the construction employers to cease doing business with the Atomic Energy Commission and the San Dia Corporation.

While the decision of the NLRB is a setback for the OEIU and the Metal Trades Council, it was not necessarily a surprise to the OEIU due to the biased decisions constantly handed down by the pro-business NLRB. It would have been surprising if the Board had found with the Unions.

There is no question about the fact that the picketing was of a primary nature in view of the fact that the contractors involved were employed by the San Dia Corporation through the Atomic Energy Commission.

While the OEIU and the Metal Trades Council, during the strike which lasted from July 1, 1957 to July 17, 1957, did not ask the employes of these contractors to respect the strike lines, to their credit the Building and Construction Trades members refused to violate the picket line.

The Office Employees International Union is particularly incensed at the decision of the National Labor Relations Board because, if allowed to stand, our economic power in the event of another strike at the Sandia base would be severely limited.

We believe the Board has gone far afield in order to find a way to try to make a secondary boycott out of a very apparent primary strike.

President Howard Coughlin has instructed General Counsel Joseph Finley to prepare an appeal to the United States Court of Appeals.

We believe that we will be able to gain a decision based on law.

**Text of Letter from Teamsters' Chief**

(Continued from page 1)

ments. 'Prestige,' therefore, which costs anywhere from \$10 to \$30 a week in lost salary is a mighty expensive luxury. The 'privilege' of wearing a white collar—in place of a blue one—comes extremely high.

"The wage and other advantages formerly enjoyed by office and clerical help have all but disappeared as unions have won gains for manual workers. And government figures show that, despite the increased demand for white collar workers, their annual income has risen more slowly than blue collar workers.

"White collar workers have the same worries and face the same economic problems as other workers. This is their basic community of interest, and white collar employes have now had ample opportunity to see the benefits of unionism, particularly in plants and establishments where other workers are already organized.

"More and more the work of the white collar employe is being downgraded. The machine is invading the office, and as a result, office work is production these days. Also, increasing automation of clerical jobs is giving office workers job security jitters.

"In view of all these factors, it seems to me that the time is right for launching an intensive organizing drive among the white collar group. By joint activity we not only can achieve our common goals of higher wages, working conditions and improved status for the white collar group but also settle jurisdictional disputes on a friendly basis.

"I should like to suggest then, in behalf of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers of America, that our two organizations consider the establishment of a joint organizing committee. This committee would be comprised of authorized representatives of both unions and designated to initiate and carry on joint campaigns on a local, area or industry wide basis. Another committee objective would be the consummation of agreements with respect to the jurisdiction of each organization.

"Both unions would also lend each other all lawful assistance and support on behalf of their respective memberships in those industries in which we have a common interest.

"I should like to propose that we enter into discussions relative to the accomplishment of these objectives and the manner in which this mutual aid activity would be financed.

"Fraternally yours,  
"James R. Hoffa,  
"General President."

The Executive Board of the Office Employees International Union, at its meeting on Tuesday, May 20, unanimously accepted the offer of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and authorized President Coughlin to appoint committees to meet with the Teamsters for purposes of immediately implementing this program.

## Hale, Bloodworth Re-Elected in Southeast



Delegates and officers of Southeastern Conference in Mobile, Ala. The photograph was made late in the day when more than half the delegates had already left for home.

At a recent meeting in Mobile, the Southeastern Organizational Conference reelected Mattie Henry Hale as president and J. Oscar Bloodworth as secretary-treasurer.

This Conference, held at the Battle House Hotel on April 19, was attended by delegates representing locals in nine (9) southeast states.

When the Conference opened, delegates were welcomed by Mayor Joseph Langan of Mobile. E. C. Pippin, vice president of the Ala-

bama Labor Council, spoke to the delegates and emphasized the difficulties that labor organizations live under when confronted with "right-to-work" laws. C. A. Rettig, president of the Mobile Central Labor Union, gave an outline of COPE activities in that city. AFL-CIO Representative L. T. Gorley, who has been engaged in numerous OEIU campaigns, also addressed the delegates.

Individual Local Union spokes-

men reported on activities of their various Local Unions.

Vice President Bloodworth gave a detailed account of activities in his region.

A similar report was made by Conference Organizer Carl Holt.

President Coughlin, in reporting on the activities of the International Union, explained that a third Organizer was active in the southeast region. He stated that Charles Gillman was temporarily employed

by the OEIU in connection with certain campaigns in Florida.

President Coughlin gave an account of some of the problems that the OEIU is facing in its organizational efforts today. He particularly mentioned the anti-union bias of the National Labor Relations Board.

During the afternoon session, much time was spent on collective bargaining problems, organizational techniques and certain legal difficulties.

Phoenix Brothers and Sisters.

During the course of the Conference meeting, Brothers Max Krug and John Kinnick gave dissertations on the problems facing the union and collective bargaining.

Sister Phyllis Mitchell gave a complete outline of an organizational campaign based on the experiences gained by San Francisco Local 3.

## Win Strike at Piel Brewery

Local 153 was successful in its strike called against the Piel Brothers Brewery in Brooklyn and Staten Island, New York.

Through this action, Local 153 was able to establish a wage settlement greater than the national pattern of a \$4.00 and \$2.00 weekly general wage increase which has shut down virtually all west coast breweries.

In this strike, Local 153 received the full support of the Teamsters Joint Council 16, the IBT Brewery Workers Joint Board and IBT, Local 1345. Their members respected our picket lines and brought about a complete shutdown of both plants. The employer, through arbitration, tried to force these brothers to cross the picket lines. However, the arbitrator ruled against the employer.

From the first negotiating session, the employer tried to extend the sales contract for thirty days so that it would follow the industry-wide contract with the Brewery Workers which expired May 31, 1958. This, naturally, would have put Local 153 in a position of accepting a wage offer similar to the one negotiated by the industry.

It is obvious the problem which would have been created in trying to get sanction from the Brewery Workers Joint Board, Teamsters Joint Council 16 and IBT, Local 1345 to respect our lines if we took economic sanction against the company for a total package which would have exceeded their settlement.

This and other reasons made it necessary for Local 153 to spearhead the drive to force a better wage pattern than the national \$4.00 and \$2.00 weekly wage offer.

Aside from the wage increase sought by the salesman, a very important issue was the protection of the sales force against a driver-sales operation, a definite threat in the Metropolitan New York area. This plan called for the driver selling keg beer as well as making the delivery, thereby causing mass layoffs of our salesmen.

As a result of the strike which lasted from May 1 to May 8, 1958, inclusive, the following settlement was reached:

1. A job security guarantee for the on-premise salesmen for the life of the contract.
2. A general wage increase of \$6.00 this year and \$3.00 next year.
3. A two-year agreement.
4. An increase of \$4.00 per month in the salesman's car allowance and an additional increase of \$2.00 per month next year.
5. A guarantee that we would not lose holiday benefits when a holiday falls on a Saturday.
6. Contractual assurance that our salesmen members may not be discharged for honoring any sanctioned picket line at the Brewery.

As a result of this settlement, Local 153 certainly gained the respect and admiration of the rank and file members of the IBT Brewery Workers Joint Board, Teamsters Joint Council 16 and IBT, Local 1345 and has served notice on the Brewers Board of Trade that Local 153 is to be reckoned with in a knock down, drag out fight.

## Western Conference Meets in Phoenix



The Western Organizational Conference held its semi-annual meeting at Phoenix, Ariz., on May 17. This meeting was exceptionally well attended.

Brothers Ken Brown, secretary-treasurer of the Arizona State Federation of Labor, and AFL-CIO Representative Elmer Theiss, addressed the conference. Both speakers stated the difficulties encountered by Local Unions in the State of Arizona due to the tremendous obstacles placed in their way through "right to work" legislation.

Brother Brown, in particular, emphasized the need to fight these vicious union-busting laws when-

ever they are presented to an electorate in any state.

President Howard Coughlin gave a rundown on the activities of the Office Employees International Union throughout the United States and Canada.

In view of the fact that the Executive Board of the Office Employees International Union was meeting subsequent to the Western Organizational Conference meeting, Vice Presidents Juliano and Finerly were in attendance.

OEIU Local 56 in Phoenix acted as host to the visiting Conference delegates. All were most impressed at the hospitality displayed by our

## Canadian Corner

By LLOYD CHAPMAN

President, Canadian Organization Conference



## Local 225 Renews Contract

A one-year renewal of the agreement between Office Employees' International Union, Local 225, Ottawa, and the National Defense Employees' Association of Canada, was recently signed. Among the improvements gained by the union were the inauguration of a pension plan; reduction of the workweek from 35 to 32½ hours; severance pay, and retirement leave.

Severance pay ranges from one week's pay after one year's service to three months' pay after 15 years' service. Retirement leave ranges from one month after two years' service to six months after 25 years.

Existing contract provisions which were renewed include: the

union shop; seniority; time-and-a-half for overtime with two hours guaranteed and transportation paid; double time for Saturdays, Sundays and statutory holidays; three weeks paid vacation after one year's service; all statutory holidays declared by the Government of Canada; and 15 days sick leave annually, to be cumulative.

It was agreed that the employer will contribute to a mutually acceptable group medical plan as soon as arrangements can be made.

Mr. Ken Green, national secretary-treasurer, signed the contract on behalf of NDEA, and June Pappas, president of OEIU Local 225, signed on behalf of the union.

## Signing British Columbia



Pictured above are the officials of the B. C. Electric Company Limited and officers and negotiating committee members of Locals 378 and 300 signing the new agreement covering 1,800 OEIU members. Seated, left to right are: Jack Westaway, vice president of Local 300; Bill Swanson, business manager, Local 378; Dal Grauer, president of B. C. Electric; Bob Rennie, president, Local 378; Ralph Freethy, president, Local 300. Standing, left to right are: Morley Fox, labor relations manager; Bill Wilson, Local 378; Tom Ellis, vice president, Local 378; John Carson, industrial relations director; and Bill Lowe of Local 378 and International representative.

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from the desk  
of the

**PRESIDENT**

**HOWARD COUGHLIN**



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**Hypocrisy in "Right to Work"**

THE proponents of "right to work," namely, the National Association of Manufacturers, the United States Chamber of Commerce, the National Right To Work Committee, and other corporate interests, have deliberately attempted to fool the public by misnaming their attempts to abolish the Union Shop, under the guise of "right-to-work" legislation.

If one were to listen closely to representatives of these groups, he might get the idea that he was entitled to a job regardless of economics. Despite the fact that critical labor surplus areas are on the increase, even in "right-to-work" states, no effort is made to let the public know that "right-to-work" legislation has nothing whatsoever to do with an individual's right to a job.

Those who speak on behalf of the NAM and the Chambers of Commerce would have you believe that these organizations are interested only in freedom for the working people. They emphasize this word "freedom" to the point that the uninformed would feel that this is a "holy" war for a sacred purpose. Actually, however, the reverse is the case.

When a number of southern committees passed ordinances denying union workers their basic rights of free speech and free assembly, the National Association of Manufacturers and Chambers of Commerce were conveniently silent. When the states of Florida and Texas passed licensing laws for union organizers, we did not hear a word from these defenders of freedom. When the City of Baxley, Georgia passed an ordinance requiring \$2,500 as a license for an organizer and the City of Dublin in that same state passed a similar ordinance requiring a \$2,500 license fee plus \$500 for each individual organized, we did not hear a single protest from NAM, the U. S. Chamber of Commerce or the National Right To Work Committee.

Eighteen (18) states have such laws. As may be expected, the overwhelming majority of these states are low wage states where union protection is most needed and where social legislation is practically non-existent. When hundreds of thousands of workers were laid off in these so-called "right-to-work" states, again these groups were strangely silent.

Senator Knowland, in campaigning for the ban against the Union Shop in California, has made it known that he feels the same way about the country as a whole. Never does he or any other opponent of the Union Shop state that the late Senator Robert Taft, who was the father of the Taft-Hartley Act, opposed any Federal ban on the Union Shop. During the earlier days of the Taft-Hartley Act, it was possible to gain a Union Shop provision in a contract only after the National Labor Relations Board had conducted a Union Shop election.

In order to make it most difficult for labor to win these elections, the law stated that the Unions had to have a majority, not of those who voted, but of those eligible to vote. This was a serious obstacle in view of the fact that we never have elected a President of the United State on the basis of requiring a majority of those eligible to vote. Despite this, the record shows that the organized workers of the country voted by more than 98 per cent for Union Shops.

Because of this consistently overwhelming, if not unanimous demand for a Union Shop by the organized workers of the United States, the National Association of Manufacturers, the United States Chamber of Commerce and the National Right To Work Committee would have the public believe that the workers do not want a Union Shop. Because election after election showed that workers sought and demanded a Union Shop by secret ballot, the Taft-Hartley Act was amended to do away with the expense of these elections which, consistently, showed the same results.

It is amazing that one will find many lawyers representing these "right-to-work" proponents. On the other hand, however, these same lawyers do not want to do away with their own Union Shops. Only a few months ago, in the State of Texas, 1800 lawyers were told that if they failed to pay their arrearage dues to the Texas Bar Association, they would be prevented from practicing law in the Texas courts.

Texas, on the other hand, is one of the 18 states which has

**Father Knickerbocker Likes His Brew**



Andrew J. McMahon, president of Local 1-2, Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO, pours first glass of beer for Father Knickerbocker at the local's annual picnic last summer. The Labor and Community Services Department of Jacob Ruppert, brewers of Knickerbocker beer, provided, in the words of President McMahon, "wonderful assistance to insure the success of the affair, by their constant attention to each detail." The brewery has announced a special service in the New York metropolitan area for union outings, picnics and meetings, including help in planning, assistance in securing suitable locations, and advice on acquiring prizes and souvenirs.

New York—The Jacob Ruppert Brewery, which is the only 100 per cent union organized brewery in New York City, has announced a special service for union locals planning outings, picnics and other affairs.

"Services guaranteeing you outstandingly successful and memorable gatherings in 1958" are described by the company in a folder mailed to all union locals in the metropolitan area. They include assistance in planning union membership gatherings, fund raising events and other occasions, as well as help in finding suitable locations and in selecting prizes and souvenirs.

"We are happy to be able to offer a special service to union groups. Jacob Ruppert has a long and friendly record of cooperation with organized labor and points with pride to the fact that it is the only

completely organized brewery in the New York area," it was stated by Walter S. Driskill, vice president in charge of marketing for the company.

"Just as we work with 13 different unions in our operations in the New York brewery alone, we look forward to working with many more union locals in helping them to have happier and more successful social and business meetings during 1958," he stated in describing the new service.

The program is administered by the Labor and Community Services Department of Jacob Ruppert, brewers of Knickerbock "New York's Famous Beer".

**Florida Hotel Wants To Eat Cake, Keep It**

Recently the American Jewish Congress announced a change in its convention site from the Deauville Hotel to the Carillon in Miami Beach, Fla.

They made this change because they found that the Deauville Hotel had obtained an injunction restraining the hotel and Restaurant Workers Union from normal organizational activity. They then proceeded to move their national convention to the Carillon, a unionized hotel.

In a retaliatory move, the Hotel Deauville sought an injunction from the Dade County Circuit Court to stop the American Jewish Congress from meeting at any other hotel in Florida.

It would appear that the Hotel Deauville wants the right to be anti-union but does not want to allow its clients to patronize union establishments.

This is an example of how most anti-union managements think. We congratulate the American Jewish Congress on its forthright attitude.

**Following Doctor's Orders**

"Bartender, put another cherry in my drink," the lush demanded. "My doctor told me I should eat more fruit." \* \* \*

**Life's Like That**

By the time you can write your own ticket, you're too tired to go.

**French Thrift**  
On the entrance of a finance company in France is a sign: "Close the door. Remember, it is your money that pays for heating these rooms." \* \* \*

**The Old Grind**

Lots of women plug away all day, with the cords attached to their electrical appliances. \* \* \*

**Drastic Steps**

Some people have read so much about the harmful effects of smoking that they have decided to give up reading. \* \* \*

**Eager Beaver**

The police sent out pictures of an escaped convict in six different poses. A constable sent the following wire: "Have captured five of them and on trail of the sixth."

**Coughlin Speaks At U. of New Mexico**

(Continued from page 1)

couraged, millions of white collar workers in the United States today would be receiving benefits attained in contractual negotiations. He pointed out that these benefits would have a decisive effect in alleviating the present recession. Numerous white collar workers, including retail clerks not covered by the Minimum Federal Wage Law are at the bottom of the barrel insofar as wages are concerned. This condition has been and still is a depressing factor on the economy of our nation.

After his initial presentation, President Coughlin answered numerous questions asked of him by students in attendance.

Professor Wollman, in thanking President Coughlin for his appearance, stated that it was the first time an international president had scheduled an address at the university.

**Seek to Organize Medical Groups**

(Continued from page 1)

New York and has been successful over the years in negotiating one of the most ideal contracts with rates as high as \$167.00 per week for these employes.

To date, through the diligent planning and techniques of Acting Business Manager Ben Cohan, Local 153 has been successful in gaining recognition from the medical directors of the East Bronx Medical Center and the Brooklyn Medical Center.

The ultimate goal of Local 153 is to organize all individual medical groups which employ approximately 400 employes and negotiate a master agreement which would establish standard wage rates for each classification, standard hours and other fringe benefits and to permit transfers from one center to another when promotions or vacancies occur.

**Please Clip**

For further information, send this clipping to:  
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I am interested in securing additional information regarding the Office Employees International Union. I can be contacted at:

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